(a) whether any request has been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for providing electronic exchanges in various towns of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Request for conversion of following exchanges into electronic exchanges has been received from Government of Madhya Pradesh:

Bina, Champa, Maksi, Kawardha, Pawai.

(c) (i) Telephone exchanges at Pawai and Kawardha have already been converted into electronic exchanges during 1990-91 and 1991-92 respectively.

(ii) Manual telephone exchanges at Bina, Champa and Maksi are planned to be converted into electronic exchanges during 1992-93.

[*English*]

Operation of flight on Delhi-Nag Pur-Raipur-Calcutta Sector

5302. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to operate the newly introduced flight between Delhi-Nagpur-Raipur-Calcutta via Bhopal;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No such flight is in operation at present either by Indian Airlines or by Vayudoot. However, Indian Airlines is operating 4 times a week service on Delhi-Nagapur-Raipur-Delhi route,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to capacity contraints it is not possible to operate the service via Bhopal or to extend it to Calcutta.

Loans State Electricity Boards

5303. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the poor financial condition of almost all the Electricity boards in the country, the Electicity Finance Corporation proposes to amend its terms and conditions for providing loans; and

(b) whether in view of the critical financial condition of Electricity Boards, government propose to liberalise the terms and conditions for recovery of loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). No, Sir, there is no such proposal at present under consideration of the Power Finance Coporation/ Government.

Construction of ITDC Hotels in Kerala

5304. SHRI v.s VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ITDC hotels functioing at present in Kerala;